IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first full paragraph of specification page 13 with the following replacement paragraph:

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Note that any parity algorithm that protects against two (or more) disk failures may be used with the semi-static distribution technique, as long as the algorithm allows any two (or more) blocks in the stripe to store the parity. An example of a double failure correcting algorithm that may be advantageously used with the present invention is uniform and symmetric row-diagonal (SRD) parity described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. (112056-0141) 10/720,361 titled *Uniform and Symmetric Double Failure Correcting Technique for Protecting against Two Disk Failures in a Disk Array*, by Peter F. Corbett et al. Here, the inventive technique is not dependent upon the uniformity or symmetry of the parity algorithm, although it can take advantage of it. When using a double failure correcting algorithm with the semi-static distribution technique, the file system reserves two unallocated data blocks to be assigned to store parity. A non-uniform double or higher failure correcting algorithm can be used since the location of the parity blocks is known deterministically. However, using such an algorithm may sacrifice the advantage that parity need not be recalculated when a disk is added to the array.

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